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French Communists Shut Pro-Red Paper Of Balky Publisher

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PARIS, Nov. 26 -- The French Communist party has put the pro-Communist Paris daily *Libération* out of business because its fellow-traveling publisher resisted the newspaper's total adherence to the party line.

Libération announced tonight that tomorrow's issue would be the last in its 20-year history. A spokesman for the paper said that "financial problems" had made the closing inevitable.

The only problem, reliable sources said, was the Communist party's abrupt withdrawal of the material support that had made *Libération's* publication possible despite a circulation of fewer than 75,000 copies daily and slim advertising.

Libération was printed at the plant of *L'Humanité*, the Communist party daily. The party has also given *Libération* financial aid during the many crises that have marked its existence.

Two nights ago, the sources said, *Libération's* publisher, Emmanuel d'Astier de la Vigerie, was told that his newspaper would be barred from *L'Humanité's* production facilities after tonight. No reason for the Communist action was given.

Disagreement Long Known

However, it has been known, at least since the Hungarian revolt of 1956, that Mr. d'Astier de la Vigerie has not always seen eye to eye with the party he has faithfully supported without becoming a member.

After the Hungarian revolution, it was learned tonight, Mr. d'Astier de la Vigerie suggested to the Communist party that *Libération* become "a progressive daily with Communist participation."

This proposal was turned down and since then Mr. d'Astier de la Vigerie has considered himself publisher in name only. He continued in the post in the hope that he might be able to persuade the party to follow his suggestion.

The abruptness of the Communist action prevented Mr. d'Astier de la Vigerie from making alternate publication arrangements. He has not sought to reverse the decision but is known to be hopeful of resuming publication at some future date. He is given little chance of succeeding.

Mr. d'Astier de la Vigerie, whose unusual political make-up combines far-left-wing views with a strong streak of Gaullism, clashed publicly with the Communists two years ago, contending that they were wrong in their blanket opposition to President de Gaulle.

A baron who does not use his title, Mr. d'Astier de la Vigerie founded *Libération's* forerunner as a clandestine newspaper during the German occupation.

He was an early supporter of General de Gaulle in the French Committee of National Liberation in Algiers and served under him as Commissioner and then Minister for Internal Affairs.